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09/088,217	06/01/1998	MASAYUKI MOROTA	B208-960	1472

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EXAMINER

HANNETT, JAMES M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

14

DATE MAILED: 10/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/088,217

Applicant(s)

MOROTA ET AL.

Examiner

James M Hannett

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10,20 and 30 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9,11-19 and 21-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/1/1998 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 11, and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Priority***

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Japan on 10/6/1997. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the Hei 09-152307 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

### ***Specification***

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: A camera control system to improve operability of cameras for panning and tilting control by permitting simultaneous confirmation of the photo-taking postures.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-9, 11-19, and 21-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 recite the limitation "the camera index". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 1: Claims 1-9, 11-19, and 21-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 715 453 Kawai et al in view of JP 06-205409 Taguchi.
- 2: As for Claim 1, Kawai depicts in Figure 2, a map window for displaying a map. Kawai teaches in the abstract that along with a map, icons or first camera index display means indicating the positions of cameras are displayed on the map so that the directions of the cameras can be identified on the map. Kawai further depicts in Figures 14, 13a, 13b and discusses on Column 12, Lines 35-44 a second camera index on the map (155) to display a second camera index indicative of the current state of tilting direction. Kawai depicts in Figures (1 and 2) and teaches on Column 7, Lines 1-12 that the system includes a camera input selector (32) and video capture device (34) within a communicating device or camera operating unit (20) adapted to receive an image picked up by the selected camera and output the image to the image window (44).

Kawai et al does not teach the use of a scroll bar that is moved up and down in the vertical direction of a screen to control the tilt of a camera without depending on a state of a current panning direction of the camera.

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Taguchi et al depicts in Figure 2 and teaches in the provided Abstract translation the use of having scroll bars along the bottom and right side of a display window that shows the image currently being captured by the camera. Taguchi et al teaches the use of moving the scroll bar (16) up and down in the vertical direction of a screen in order to change the current tilt direction of the camera. This is advantageous because it improves a users ability to control the current viewing direction of a camera.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the camera system of Kawai et al with scroll bars along the bottom and right side of the display window (44) in order to improves a users ability to control the current viewing direction of a camera.

3: As for Claim 2, Kawai teaches in Figures 13a, 13b, and on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that by dragging a tilt line indicator (155) the tilting direction of the selected camera can be controlled. Kawai and teaches on Column 7, Lines 1-12 that the communicating device or camera operating unit (20) controls the functions of the cameras. or as taught by Taguchi et al the tilt direction can be changed by dragging the Tilt scroll bar (16).

4: In regards to Claim 3, Kawai teaches in Figure 14 and on Column 12, Lines 38-43 that in response to selecting the camera icon on the map display, symbols depicting a pan direction line, zoom lines, and tilt line are displayed.

5: In regards to Claim 4, Kawai depicts in Figure 14 an icon comprised of lines (152), (153), (154), and (155). Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that the tilt line (155) indicates the current state of the tilting direction.

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6: As for Claim 5, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that the tilt line (155) indicates the current state of the tilting direction.

7: As for Claim 6, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 19-26 and in Figure 13a and 13b that an isosceles triangle is formed by the two zoom lines having the point C as the start and the base of the triangle is the furthest distance the tilt line can travel. Therefore, the controllable range of the tilt line is limited to the intersection of the two zoom lines and at the end point of the two zoom lines corresponding to the downward most direction and upward most direction. Furthermore, the location of the tilt line indicates the current tilting direction of the selected camera.

8: In regards to Claim 7, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Therefore, the action of dragged a tilt line along the centerline corresponds to the actions of a scroll bar. Furthermore, the tilting direction display means or the tilt line (153) is arranged to perpendicularly intersect the centerline. The location of this intersection on the centerline indicates the current image pickup direction in the vertical direction.

9: In regards to Claim 8, Kawai teaches in Figures 13a, 13b, and on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that by dragging a tilt line indicator (155) the tilting direction of the selected camera can be controlled. Kawai and teaches on Column 7, Lines 1-12 that the communicating device or camera operating unit (20) controls the functions of the cameras.

10: As for Claim 9, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Furthermore, the tilting direction display means or the tilt line (153) is arranged to

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perpendicularly intersect the centerline (or scroll bar). The location of this intersection on the centerline indicates the current image pickup direction in the vertical direction.

11: As for Claim 11, Kawai depicts in Figure 2, a map window for displaying a map. Kawai teaches in the abstract that along with a map, icons or first camera index display means indicating the positions of cameras are displayed on the map so that the directions of the cameras can be identified on the map. Kawai further depicts in Figures 14, 13a, 13b and discusses on Column 12, Lines 35-44 a second camera index display means (155) to display a second camera index indicative of the current state of tilting direction on the map.

Kawai et al does not teach the use of a scroll bar that is moved up and down in the vertical direction of a screen to control the tilt of a camera without depending on a state of a current panning direction of the camera.

Taguchi et al depicts in Figure 2 and teaches in the provided Abstract translation the use of having scroll bars along the bottom and right side of a display window that shows the image currently being captured by the camera. Taguchi et al teaches the use of moving the scroll bar (16) up and down in the vertical direction of a screen in order to change the current tilt direction of the camera. This is advantageous because it improves a users ability to control the current viewing direction of a camera.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the camera system of Kawai et al with scroll bars along the bottom and right side of the display window (44) in order to improves a users ability to control the current viewing direction of a camera.

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12: As for Claim 12, Kawai teaches in Figures 13a, 13b, and on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that by dragging a tilt line indicator (155) the tilting direction of the selected camera can be controlled. or as taught by Taguchi et al the tilt direction can be changed by dragging the Tilt scroll bar (16).

13: In regards to Claim 13, Kawai teaches in Figure 14 and on Column 12, Lines 38-43 that in response to selecting the camera icon on the map display, symbols depicting a pan direction line, zoom lines, and tilt line are displayed.

14: In regards to Claim 14, Kawai depicts in Figure 14 an icon comprised of lines (152), (153), (154), and (155). Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that the tilt line (155) indicates the current state of the tilting direction.

15: As for Claim 15, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that the tilt line (155) indicates the current state of the tilting direction.

16: As for Claim 16, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 19-26 and in Figure 13a and 13b that an isosceles triangle is formed by the two zoom lines having the point C as the start and the base of the triangle is the furthest distance the tilt line can travel. Therefore, the controllable range of the tilt line is limited to the intersection of the two zoom lines and at the end point of the two zoom lines corresponding to the downward most direction and upward most direction. Furthermore, the location of the tilt line indicates the current tilting direction of the selected camera.

17: In regards to Claim 17, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Therefore, the action of dragged a tilt line along the centerline corresponds



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to the actions of a scroll bar. Furthermore, the tilting direction display means or the tilt line (153) is arranged to perpendicularly intersect the centerline. The location of this intersection on the centerline indicates the current image pickup direction in the vertical direction.

18: In regards to Claim 18, Kawai teaches in Figures 13a, 13b, and on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that by dragging a tilt line indicator (155) the tilting direction of the selected camera can be controlled.

19: As for Claim 19, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Furthermore, the tilting direction display means or the tilt line (153) is arranged to perpendicularly intersect the centerline. The location of this intersection on the centerline indicates the current image pickup direction in the vertical direction.

20: Claim 21 is rejected for the reasons discussed above related to claim 11 (since claim 21 is substantively equivalent to claim 11).

21: Claim 22 is rejected for the reasons discussed above related to claim 12 (since claim 22 is substantively equivalent to claim 12).

22: Claim 23 is rejected for the reasons discussed above related to claim 13 (since claim 23 is substantively equivalent to claim 13).

23: Claim 24 is rejected for the reasons discussed above related to claim 14 (since claim 24 is substantively equivalent to claim 14).

24: As for Claim 25, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that the tilt line (155) indicates the current state of the tilting direction.

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25: As for Claim 26, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 19-26 and in Figure 13a and 13b that an isosceles triangle is formed by the two zoom lines having the point C as the start and the base of the triangle is the furthest distance the tilt line can travel. Therefore, the controllable range of the tilt line is limited to the intersection of the two zoom lines and at the end point of the two zoom lines corresponding to the downward most direction and upward most direction. Furthermore, the location of the tilt line indicates the current tilting direction of the selected camera.

26: In regards to Claim 27, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Therefore, the action of dragged a tilt line along the centerline corresponds to the actions of a scroll bar. Furthermore, the tilting direction display means or the tilt line (153) is arranged to perpendicularly intersect the centerline. The location of this intersection on the centerline indicates the current image pickup direction in the vertical direction.

27: In regards to Claim 28, Kawai teaches in Figures 13a, 13b, and on Column 14, Lines 12-32 that by dragging a tilt line indicator (155) the tilting direction of the selected camera can be controlled.

28: As for Claim 29, Kawai teaches on Column 14, Lines 12-32 and depicts in Figures 13a and 13b that the tilt line can be dragged or scrolled in a direction to approach or separate from the camera icon. Furthermore, the tilting direction display means or the tilt line (153) is arranged to perpendicularly intersect the centerline. The location of this intersection on the centerline indicates the current image pickup direction in the vertical direction.

### ***Conclusion***

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The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. USPN 6,337,709 Yamaashi et al teaches the use of a tilt scroll bar oriented in the vertical direction.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M Hannett whose telephone number is 703-305-7880. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-842-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to customer service whose telephone number is 703-308-6789.

James Hannett  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2612

JMH  
October 6, 2003

  
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